

I am writing to oppose the current plan to roll out 5G technology as fast as possible.

Safety testing. As far as I am aware there are no plans to do any safety testing for humans, animals or trees/plants etc. or on building fabric. This is grossly irresponsible as there are several scientific studies showing potential for harmful effects (going back to 1977). The risk is incalculable as everyone and everything will be irradiated with powerful millimeter waves.

Environmental. There will be some kind of transmitter every few yards on most public thoroughfares. These will be an even greater aesthetic intrusion than the current phone masts. The effect of this radiation on the environment is probably unknown, or not being considered. This is unacceptable.

Environmental. All these transmitters will require a significant amount of power. However it is produced there is a significant environmental cost.

Alternatives. What benefit would this provide over and above, say, fibre optic and high-speed ethernet links – ie fully wired connections? These are faster, safer, more reliable and more secure.

Cost. The proposed infrastructure will have a huge cost associated with it, both capital investment and ongoing support, maintenance and energy consumption. . Who will pay for it? Presumably the customer, who may not even want it and may be unable to use it because of health problems.

Why am I writing from Spain? America is widely acknowledged as a leader in technology. What happens in America is likely to find its way around the world very quickly.

I would urge you to reconsider this plan, particularly on the grounds of public health and safety. Without up-front safety testing it could prove to be a very costly mistake, in financial, human and planetary terms.